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A HOWLING FARCE

Is What the Spencer Asylum Investigation Resolves Itself.

ALL OF THE CHARGES WITHDRAWN

By the Attorneys for the Complainants, for the Reason

THEY COULD NOT SUBSTANTIATE

Owing to Powerless Position of Board to Compel Attendance

OF THE PROSECUTION'S WITNESSES.

Furthermore They Objected to the Directors Sitting as Judge, Court and Jury on Their Own Acts—Governor MacCorkle's Profound Observation in Ringing Down the Curtain on the Last Scene, Declaring That It Was Impossible to "Pull Off" the Investigation, as There were not Enough Directors not Implicated to Make a Quorum—Some Sensational Scenes Enacted—The Lie Was Passed, and an Attorney Narrowly Escapes Assault—The Whole Thing Was so Funny that It Made the Patients Grin—Governor MacCorkle has Signed Articles to Fight President Lively's Case All by His "Lone-some."

From a Staff Correspondent.

SPENCER, W. VA., Oct. 24.—The great and much heralded comedy entitled an investigation into the charges of the official conduct of the management of the second hospital for the insane, was presented here to-day in the board of directors' room, and developed into just what I have all along predicted it would be not a comedy, but a one act farce. For several hours the board, presided over by Governor MacCorkle, sat with open doors to hear such charges as any one had to present against all connected with the institution. The net result of the investigation briefly summarized is first, that no actual investigation was had; second, the persons who have made the charges and who were represented by their attorneys in obedience to the summons of the board, withdrew them, because, as they stated, they did not recognize that they could be fairly heard by a directory composed of interested parties; third, the directory then held a brief inquest of its own, in which it was developed that none of the charges against the superintendent, Dr. Rowe and the asylum staff were sustained; fourth, the serious charge against the president of the board of directors, Hon. William E. Lively, made by a woman, was not even heard, the prosecuting witness not appearing and the attorney in charge of the matter having withdrawn the charge for the reason stated above. Governor MacCorkle will make a personal investigation of this case. This is how the matter stands, but there are some few details that must be told in order that the public may understand the situation thoroughly.

SENSATIONAL INCIDENTS

That Occurred During the Session—A Democratic Factional Fight.

The session was not devoid of sensational incidents, the central figure of which was attorney Ed. Corder, of Spencer, who appeared for Editor A. B. White, of the Parkersburg Journal, and who succeeded early in the proceedings in making himself obnoxious to the board by his frank insinuations and his determination not to recognize the authority of the directors. Several times he was threatened with expulsion from the room, twice denounced as a liar, once by Director Camden and once by Director Enslow, the latter emphasizing his denunciation with a personal assault with a cane, with which Mr. Enslow would have struck Corder had not the latter assured him the offensive remark did not refer to him, Enslow.

These things gave exciting variety to the proceedings, which were otherwise either amusing or disgusting. After watching the proceedings carefully for every moment and being here two days, during which I have interviewed over a hundred people on all sides, I have come to the conclusion that without a disinterested commission with authority to compel the attendance of witnesses the charges against the members of the directory cannot be sustained. I doubt whether they could be sustained even then.

CHARGES MADE BY DEMOCRATS.

The charges in nearly every instance are made by Democratic politicians who have a personal grievance against the administration. This is my candid opinion. The charges of brutality to patients seem to come from the same source. The whole affair seems to be a Democratic factional warfare. The Republican press was right in demanding the investigation, for it has developed this fact above everything else. The only Republican director involved in the charges was Mr. Foster, of Huntington, who was said to have contracted with his own firm for hardware supplies. It was not a contract, and Mr. Foster knew nothing of his firm receiving the order at the time. He is only a stockholder in the concern, and not the owner. He is a man worth a half million, and the alleged purchase only amounted to two or three hundred dollars.

The cases of Drs. Camden, Wells and others were not gone into either, but they made statements and no formal hearing was had, because no charges were filed. Mr. White's statement on behalf of the state journal, was intended to be filed as a formal charge embracing thirty-one counts, but was not presented. It was a very complete statement, however, of Mr. White's attitude and gave frankly the basis of his

newspaper publications together with affidavits supporting some of the charges.

THE GOVERNOR OPENS THE FARCE.

After the board, newspaper men and others had assembled in the directors' room this morning Governor MacCorkle stated the object of the investigation. He said that charges had been going abroad over the state of malfeasance in office, incompetency, etc. He desired a thorough examination into these charges and intended that it should be impartial. He declared, however, that all charges must be made in legal form and in writing. They must be specific and capable of proof, not merely complaints based on rumor and gossip.

Attorney Corder, of Spencer, appearing for the State Journal, produced a fat looking envelope, and, before presenting it, stated that as an attorney he desired first to say that he did not recognize the right of the board to conduct an investigation in which the members themselves are interested. The board has not the power to compel the attendance of witnesses, and it was in that respect not the proper body. He proposed, however, to read the charges against the management which had appeared in the State Journal, together with the authorities on which certain publications, editorial and otherwise, were made.

CHARGES WITHDRAWN.

Governor MacCorkle suggested that Mr. Corder wait until all the charges were filed in regular form, when he would be permitted to read his statement, which Mr. Corder, after some hesitation, consented to do. Thereupon Attorney G. E. Vandale, for Dr. McQuinn, made a statement similar in its effect to that of Attorney Corder. He took the ground that the board of directors should make a final decision. If the board has not the authority to command witnesses to appear then it has not the power to make the investigation. Mr. Vandale made quite an elaborate legal argument on the powers of the board in the matter, holding that it could not pay witnesses attendance fees. He concluded that inasmuch as the board has no compulsory right to summon witnesses and it was impossible to have a proper investigation, he would take the liberty to withdraw his client's charges.

Dr. McQuinn himself made a statement, in which he said that he had made no personal charges, but that he had in his possession certain affidavits and certificates substantiating the information which he had furnished to Editor White. They involved the official integrity of certain members of the management and unless he could go into a trial of the charges before a body with a proper legal status, and with authority to compel the attendance of witnesses, he would not present them.

Attorney Corder, who during the proceedings had several lively tilts with the governor, then read the statement of Editor A. B. White, of the State Journal, reviewing the publications that had been made in his paper, and declared that while he was satisfied that the investigation by the board of charges against itself would prove a farce, getting in a sly dig at the governor for attempting to prejudice the case, he declared his willingness to submit all the information in his possession.

EDITOR WHITE'S STATEMENT.

The first publication made in the Journal was an extract from the Monroe Watchman, a Democratic paper, commenting on Superintendent Rowe's letter referring to newspaper charges, the charge in that particular case being Superintendent Rowe's refusal to respond to the Monroe county sheriff's summons to come there and take an insane man to the hospital. During the delay the man took his own life. The article contained other charges, among them that a beautiful and refined young lady, who became insane, was confined in the Kanawha county jail two days, when she should have been taken direct to Spencer. Another that patients at Spencer are required to scrub floors and do other menial work. The patients were not confined in a workhouse. Another was that there was no classification of patients; another that the superintendent is a partisan politician and not qualified by experience for the position.

The charges in Mr. White's statement were numbered from one to thirty. Among them are some very grave and serious charges against members of the board of directors, all of which have been published. The reading of Mr. White's statement occupied some time. It was voluminous and covered every detail of the thirty charges enumerated. A peculiar feature is that nearly every one of the thirty charges comes from a Democratic source.

Attorney J. H. Lynch, appearing for W. G. Wyatt, who made charges of brutality, stated that unless the board has power to compel the attendance of witnesses he did not feel that his client should go into the investigation, as he would not be in a position to make a fair presentation of his charges.

AN ANOMALOUS POSITION.

Attorney Vandale, after all the complaints were in, wanted to know if those members of the board who were charged with anything would be permitted to pass on their own cases.

Governor MacCorkle said they should not, and then Mr. Vandale said that since nearly all the directors were involved the board would be left without a quorum and the investigation without a court. Governor MacCorkle admitted that this was indeed an anomalous situation, and he had to confess that he did not exactly see how there was any way out of it.

Dr. Rowe's attorney, Mr. Walter Pondexter, suggested that he desired the charges made against the superintendent thoroughly investigated, but they were in such shape that the investigation would be considerably complicated. He wanted full justice done his client, but he did not desire the charges against him mixed up with charges against any one else, as they were in the statement read from Mr. White. Director Enslow stated that the directory was ready and willing to investigate the charges against the superintendent, providing the witnesses could be secured, but the board had no authority to compel them to attend. As to the directors themselves, they were in a trying position. The law provided no other body to investigate the directory except a legislative committee. These charges were in circulation before the legislature met. The committee of the legislature visited the asylum and had reported that no public institution in the state was in a better condition. He called attention to the fact that the

committee was appointed by a Republican legislature. He evidently desired it to go out that a Republican committee had not found anything wrong with an investigation against which Democrats had made very serious charges. Mr. Enslow's speech was a general denial of what he characterized as general charges against the board of directors. This he said was all that it was possible for members of the board to do, so far as the charges affecting the directory generally.

END OF THE FARCE.

Governor MacCorkle Dismisses the Whole Matter, No Charges Being Made.

At the re-opening in the afternoon Dr. McQuinn stated that he desired to show that witnesses could not be gotten here unless there was a compulsory process. Attorney Lynch told of another witness, a very important one, who had gone away and could not be compelled to attend. Attorney Corder stated that owing to the fact that he objected to the board of directors and the governor sitting as a trial board, he would not file his charges at this time. Then followed a lively scene. Governor MacCorkle declared that as there were no charges before the board the matter was dismissed.

Mr. Corder—"I desire to ask if we are to be—"

Governor MacCorkle—"Mr. Corder, you are permitted to leave the room or take your seat. Having filed no charges you have no standing before this body."

Mr. Corder persisted and Governor MacCorkle insisted, and things looked warm for a time. Governor MacCorkle declared matters at an end, and Mr. Lively took the chair. Director Enslow then arose and stated that while no formal charges were before the board against the superintendent and the attendants the board was willing to enter into the matter so far as to hear statements from the superintendent and others affected, from attorneys, etc., in order that some conclusion as to the justice of the charges might be arrived at.

Attorney Corder then asked to file the affidavits from L. S. Goff, of Boone county, and F. M. McPherson, of Wood county, testifying to acts of cruelty to insane patients on the part of attendants. They were received and filed.

SUPERINTENDENT ROWE'S STATEMENT.

Dr. Rowe, superintendent of the asylum, was sworn and made a statement regarding the contents of the affidavits. Witness said the charges that he had not examined patients was untrue, and that all the claims made by McPherson affecting the medical staff were unfounded. He knew nothing of the charges of neglect or cruelty by attendants. Mr. McPherson himself had struck a patient while he was an attendant and was discharged. Dr. Rowe explained how patients often become obstreperous and fight among themselves.

In answer to one of McPherson's charges, he said attendants are instructed to control patients, but to do so without cruelty or unnecessary force. When this rule is disobeyed the attendant is removed. In reference to the charge of the Monroe County Watchman about his failure to send for a patient he stated that he had telegraphed to Deputy Sheriff Hines to bring the patient to the hospital and he would pay all expenses. He did not hear from Mr. Hines for some days. Afterward he sent for the patient, but found he was not at the county seat where the law directed him to be sent. Dr. Rowe's explanation was entirely satisfactory. Regarding the Kanawha county case, he said he knew of no case of an attendant leaving a young girl in jail there. On cross-examination he declared that the claim that patients are not properly classified is untrue.

That was the only question that seemed to be pertinent that was asked of Dr. Rowe, who patiently, coolly and politely answered a long list of questions so absurd in their nature as to keep the audience in a continual roar of laughter.

Mr. Corder increased materially the farcical character of the inquest by his style of cross examination, and President Lively had to call on him to conduct it on a more regular plan.

INNOCENT AS LAMBS.

Dr. Gwynn, assistant superintendent, testified to the correct conduct of the institution confirming Dr. Rowe's statement that there was no brutality. Supervisor McMath, charged with kicking a patient, said under oath that he had never been guilty of the act, and knew of no other acts of cruelty.

On cross-examination he admitted that he is a brother-in-law of Director Wells. Attorney Corder asked him concerning a woman's reputation, and Director Enslow called him down. There was a hot time, during which Mr. Enslow said he would permit no woman's name to be reflected upon. Mr. Goff, who made the affidavit that he had witnessed acts of cruelty by attendants, is a resident of Spencer. Being sworn he reiterated his charges, confirming his affidavit. It appeared, however, that the attendant that he saw beating a patient had since been discharged. Mr. Enslow referring to the charge that members of the board had entered into a combination to feather their nests with plumbing contracts, said that no member of the present board was a member at the time of the first contract. The affidavit was made by Mr. Turner, of Parkersburg. At the granting of the second contract Turner was not a bidder, and the statement of Mr. Turner affecting the honor of the present board could not have been true. He said that if any man had that charge to repeat in his presence he would denounce him as a liar. Turning to Attorney Corder he said, "If you repeat that charge, you are a liar."

Mr. Corder said, "We can prove what we have said."

Mr. Enslow grasped a cane and drew it upon Corder, but on Corder's saying he had no charge to make against him, he dropped the cane.

Dr. T. B. Camden, also made a statement regarding a charge connecting his name with certain matters, that the charge was totally untrue. Mr. Corder had made the charge and Dr. Camden denounced him as a liar. The incident ended there, and the board almost immediately adjourned.

It is safe to say that the whole matter will end here until the next meeting of the legislature. Governor MacCorkle says the result bears out his newspaper interview. In Mr. Lively's case he will make a personal inquiry. It is, he says, purely a matter for him to look after, as it affects the personal conduct of one of his own appointees and has no connection with Mr. Lively's official duties.

U. A. D.

TEN LEAGUES OR FIGHT.

The Diplomatic Air Seems to be Full of Boundary Disputes.

THIS TIME IT IS UP IN ALASKA

Where the Wild Seal Wags his Tail Unscared and the Hardy Ptarmigan Flings his Frosty Flight—The American Residents of Alaska are Worked up Over the Claims of England, and Say They Will Never Submit to be Dumped Over to British Rule—Supt. Duffield, of the Coast Survey, Says There is no Danger of Such a Catastrophe.

SEATTLE, WASH., Oct. 24.—The agitation of the Alaskan boundary question has been taken up bodily by the American residents of Juneau and a move is now being made to form a boundary club at that place to keep the people and the government fully alive to the danger of losing the invaluable Yukon mines. As already indicated, the wary "Ten marine leagues or fight," is being sounded. The situation is given by G. B. Swineheart, editor of the Alaska Mining Record, at Juneau, who is now in this city.

"If England can effect an entrance to the Yukon country," he said, "she will be satisfied, and she hopes to accomplish that object by securing Dyes Inlet as a port of entry. She will also try to obtain Annette Island, but will waive that and all other considerations in order to control the rich mines of the north. She would undoubtedly relinquish all claim to the rest of the territory to gain her end, and if she succeeds we might as well give up any claim on Alaska."

W. Otis Smith, editor of the Alaskan, published at Sitka, is also in the city. He says: "All England wants is a seaport at the entrance to the Yukon country, and she has raised this pretended claim on the southern boundary so that she may figure in the eyes of the world as magnanimous. She will forego this claim magnanimously if the United States will admit the claims she is setting up in the Chukot country and let her have a seaport giving access to the Yukon. But the boundary has long been established and I do not see why we should submit anything to arbitration."

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—"The people of Juneau may possess their souls in peace," said Superintendent Duffield, of the coast and geodetic survey to-day, "as to the possibilities of that city being included in English territory if the results of our survey of the boundary line between Alaska and the British possessions, as far as made, be accepted as accurate. They seem to be unnecessarily worked up over the situation. They should know that the commissioners acting on behalf of this country and Great Britain will have no voice in the final determination of the dispute, as it will be settled by the high officials of the foreign affairs of the two countries."

A Fine Flock of Sheep.

WASHINGTON, Pa., Oct. 24.—Among the finest flocks of sheep in Washington county, famous for its wool, is the flock of Blackfoot Spanish Merinos, which Homer Willison, of Chartiers township, has just sold to the Perry Bros., of Radnor, Delaware county, O. This flock was founded in 1857 by Joseph Willison, who devoted years of attention to breeding, and thus brought his flock up to the highest standard of excellence.

WIRE WHISPERS.

The coal miners' strike in the Massillon, Ohio, district is practically at an end.

Mrs. Mabel W. Yznaga, of New York, has secured a Dakota divorce from her husband.

Yesterday the available cash in the treasury was \$151,645,892; gold reserve, \$95,010,658.

Fire yesterday destroyed \$100,000 worth of property in the best portion of Dallas, Texas.

Dr. George M. Harrison, of Lorain, O., cut his throat yesterday. Illness was the cause of the suicide.

Twenty buildings in Gibsonburg, O., about all the business places, were burned yesterday. Loss \$300,000.

Joe Aronson, brother of the New York operative manager, was found dead in his lodgings in London, yesterday.

Walter Dobbins, 15 years old, shot Joseph Miller, a carpenter, of Chicago, yesterday, for insulting his mother.

President Cleveland and party arrived in Washington last night, none of them being the worse for their visit to Atlanta.

The dead body of W. T. Porcell, druggist of South Greenfield, Mo., was found on the railroad tracks near that place. Object of the murder was robbery.

Destruction by fire of R. Stark & Co.'s millinery establishment and other stores, at Albany, involved a loss of \$200,000, besides resulting in the death of Assistant Fire Chief J. C. Griffin.

Sidney Lane, a Southern Pacific brakeman, and Conductor Neville, fought an old grudge out to the death at Houston yesterday, with pistols. Neville refused to have Lane on his train because he disobeyed orders.

A bad wreck occurred on the Pennsylvania railroad early yesterday morning near Altoona. Engineer Walkitt and Fireman Haines, of Harrisburg, were killed, and nine persons slightly injured. Four mail cars with their contents were burned.

The eighteen distilleries and the office of the old whiskey trust, purchased by the American Spirit Manufacturing Company, under the decree of sale for \$9,000,000, were yesterday formally turned over to the latter company by Receiver McNulta.

The session of the supreme council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons yesterday at Washington, was devoted to committee work and legislative business. The annual banquet was given at the Hotel Ansonia last night. To-day the members of the council will go in a body to Arlington cemetery, where an oration will be delivered over the grave of the late General Albert Pike.

THE WORLD'S RECORD

For Fast Long Distance Run Made Over the Lake Shore Road Yesterday.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Oct. 24.—The world's record for railroad speed over a great distance was broken by a special train on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad, which ran from One Hundredth street, Chicago, to Buffalo creek, Buffalo, a distance of 510.1 miles in 481 minutes and 7 seconds, an average speed of 61.69 miles an hour. This time includes stops. Exclusive of stops, the run was made in 470 minutes 10 seconds, average speed of 61.98 miles an hour.

The New York Central's record of September 11 was an average speed of 63.61 miles an hour, including stops, and 64.26 miles an hour exclusive of delay. The train left Chicago this morning at 3:33:27, central time, and arrived at Buffalo creek at 11:30:34. Four minutes later the train came to a stop in the Central station in Buffalo. The train was made up of three coaches, an engine and tender. The coaches were two Wagner drawingroom cars, Madagascarc and Emeralds, and Dr. Seward Webb's private car Ellamere, the combined weight of which is 54,500 pounds. The weight of the engine and tender was 181,000 pounds, making the total weight of the train 485,500 pounds.

Different engines were on each of the divisions, and the run for the divisions were: Chicago to Elkhart, 87.4 miles, in 85 minutes and 26 seconds. Elkhart to Toledo, 133.4 miles, in 124 minutes and 35 seconds. Toledo to Cleveland, 107.8 miles, in 105 minutes and 6 seconds. Cleveland to Erie, 95.5 miles, in eighty-five minutes and 32 seconds. Erie to Buffalo, 88 miles, in 70 minutes and 16 seconds. Between Chicago and Elkhart the train was obliged to slow down for railroad crossings eight times and to scoop water once.

The engine which pulled the train over this division was No. 957, Mark Floyd, engineer. This engine is a standard Lake Shore passenger engine, (eight wheelers), built by the Brooks locomotive works, at Dunkirk, New York, and designed by George W. Stevens, superintendent of motive power for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railway. The diameter of her drivers is 72 inches; size of cylinders, 17 by 24 inches; weight of drivers, 65,000 pounds; total weight, exclusive of tender, 104,000 pounds.

At Elkhart, two minutes and eleven seconds were lost in changing engines. Engine No. 599, David Lucan, pulled the train to Toledo, and on this run eight slow downs were made for crossings and water. At Toledo, two minutes and thirty-eight seconds were lost in changing engines. Here No. 169 was attached. James Lathrop, engineer, and more trouble was experienced in delays. Besides the inevitable stops for draw bridges and railroad crossings, one dead stop was made for a red flag, where the actual time standing still without computing the loss in slowing down from a speed of seventy-two miles an hour and of getting up speed again was two minutes and five seconds. At Cleveland, one minute and forty-five seconds were consumed in changing to engine No. 698, which was piloted by Jacob Ganser, drove the train to Erie at the fastest average yet attained. But the greatest record was made on the last lap from Erie to Buffalo, where the big ten-wheeler, No. 564, William Tunkey, engineer, picked up the train and pulled her into Buffalo at an average speed of over seventy miles an hour.

EX-SENATOR VAN WYCK DEAD.

He Succumbs to a Stroke of Apoplexy. Sketch of His Life.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 24.—Ex-United States senator Charles H. Van Wyck, of Nebraska, died at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon in his apartments at the Portland Hotel.

He was stricken with apoplexy Monday afternoon and his condition since has been very critical. He showed slight improvement Wednesday morning, but at night grew steadily worse, and since then his death has been momentarily expected. At his bedside when the end came were Mrs. Van Wyck, a daughter, Miss Fannie, and his wife's brother, Mr. Mark Broadhead.

Charles Henry Van Wyck was born at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., May 10, 1824. He graduated at Rutgers in 1843, and soon afterward entered upon the profession of law. From 1850 to 1856 he was district attorney of Sullivan county, New York. He served in the lower house of Congress two terms, from 1859 to 1863, as a Republican.

Mr. Van Wyck married a daughter of General Broadhead, of Pennsylvania, whose brother, Rev. Augustus Broadhead, is a well known missionary in India. Mr. Van Wyck had been in poor health for several years. About two years ago he suffered a stroke of paralysis. His widow and a daughter survive him.

THE TURKISH REVOLT

Nipped in the Bud by Execution of Fifty Young Turks.

LONDON, Oct. 25.—The Standard this morning has further details from its correspondent at Constantinople regarding the execution of the fifty young Turks who were arrested on Saturday on a charge of excesses during the recent Armenian riots, as was exclusively cabled yesterday to the Associated Press. The fifty culprits, after a trial, were conveyed by night aboard a Turkish man-of-war, whose boats took them to the swiftest current and dropped them overboard.

"I am able to assert," continues the correspondent, "that these measures have entirely broken the spirit of the Turkish revolutionaries. Hassan Pasha, minister of marine, is also suspected and is closely watched."

Lady Sholto in Demand.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., Oct. 24.—There appears to be every prospect of a fight over the possession of Lady Sholto Douglas, between two theatrical managers of this city. Yesterday George C. Thompson and Ed Shea, of Boston, signed a two-months contract with her ladyship at \$25 a week and expenses, the contract to expire December 1. Thompson and Shea commenced making arrangements for a tour through the adjacent cities and towns. They were interrupted to learn that the Frawley Company had signed her ladyship for the remainder of the season at a larger figure, alleged to be \$300 a week, but really about \$100. Thompson and his partner will seek legal means to protect their interests.

DOES THIS MEAN WAR?

Big Russian Fleet Sails for Ports on Korean Coast.

ONE OF THEM A STRATEGIC POINT

And Only Twelve Hours Sail From Japan—A Very Threatening Condition of Affairs, to Say the Least. The Russian Movement Likely to Precipitate Trouble—Japan's Reply to the Czar's Request to Evacuate Korea Courteous but Firm—The Feeling in Diplomatic Circles.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—A special dispatch from Shanghai says that a Russian squadron of fifteen ships has left Vladivostok for Chemulpo and Fusan. The Japanese fleet in Formosan waters, it is also stated, has been recalled, and it is announced on excellent authority that several British warships have been ordered to sail for Korea.

It is stated at Shanghai that Japan's reply to the demand of Russia that the former evacuate Korea is couched in pacific but firm language, and protests against dictation by Russia in foreign affairs.

It is regarded at Shanghai as certain that Russia will permanently occupy Fusan.

The Shanghai despatch also says that the situation of affairs is most grave and that preparations for the expected struggle are visible on all sides, but it is hoped that a solution of the difficulty will be found in Russia and Japan agreeing to divide Korea.

A GRAVE CONDITION

Which May End in a Conflict Between Russia and Japan.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 24.—The cable reports that a Russian fleet of fifteen vessels was on its way to Korea attracted much attention among the diplomatic representatives of the far east to whom it was shown. It is regarded as presenting a grave condition, if the facts are as reported. The fact that Fusan is one of the points toward which the Russians are heading, is pointed out as especially significant. Fusan is at the southeastern extremity of Korea, and is the point nearest to Japan, being only twelve hours' sail from the Japanese mainland. Further north is Won San, the strategic point in Korea which the Russians have long sought to secure.

NEXT REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

May Be Held in Chicago or Pittsburgh, and June 10 Probably the Date.

New York, Oct. 24.—Following the conference last night which resulted in the issuing of the call for the meeting of the Republican committee, on December 10, there was a dinner at the Brunswick to which Chairman Carter, Gen. J. S. Clark and T. C. Platt sat down. It is alleged that it was decided at this dinner, so far as the will of three men may decide it, that the national Republican convention will be held either in Chicago or Pittsburgh, and probably on June 10. It was said that seventeen members of the national committee had expressed a preference for San Francisco as the convention city, while twenty-five votes are necessary to a choice. San Francisco, it was alleged, cannot obtain the requisite eight additional votes.

Will Vote For Pittsburgh.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 24.—David Martin said to-day that at the meeting of the National Republican committee in Washington on December 10, he will vote for Pittsburgh as the place for holding the meeting of the national convention next year. His reasons are that Pittsburgh has a hall that will seat 16,000 people, and San Francisco is too far away for eastern delegates.

ARGUMENTS BEGUN

In the Durrant Case—The Prisoner Maintains a Stolid Indifference.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 24.—Assistant District Attorney Peixotto to-day made the opening argument for the prosecution in the trial of Durrant. When court convened General Dickinson asked that Miss Cunningham be recalled, but she was only asked a few unimportant questions and then excused. The remainder of the day was occupied by Mr. Peixotto. He discussed the evidence in the case from the time Durrant accompanied Miss Lamont to school on the morning of April 3 until he appeared before O'Connell King in Emanuel church at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, pale, trembling and excited. He closed by asking the jury to uphold the laws of the state by rendering a verdict of guilty and fixing the penalty at death.

During Mr. Peixotto's argument the court room was crowded and Durrant sat stolid and indifferent in his usual place beside his attorneys, surrounded by father, mother and a number of friends. Durrant betrayed no emotion or feeling when accused of murders that were compared with the crimes of "Jack the Ripper" in the Whitechapel district of London. His mother, however, looked more thoughtful and depressed than she has at any other time since the trial began.

Fatal Race Riot Collision.

HYDE PARK, MASS., Oct. 24.—A rear-end collision occurred here on the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad at 5:18 p. m., in which one man, G. M. Austin, was killed; a woman, Mrs. William Ray, of Cambridge, Mass., fatally injured, and twelve other passengers, including Congressman Elijah A. Morse, were more or less seriously hurt.

Steamship Arrivals.

London.—The American live steamer, St. Louis, Captain Ruppel, which sailed from New York October 16, for Southampton, passed Funchal (Azores) this morning and signaled that she had lost her rudder, she sailed for two days to meet her outside the Needles, to assist her to port.

New York.—Alber, Bremen, and Southampton; Muenchen, Bremen; Peking, Hamburg.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, fair, warmer; southwesterly wind.

For Eastern Pennsylvania and Ohio, fair, slightly warmer; westerly wind.

THE TEMPERATURE YESTERDAY.

As furnished by G. Schuyler, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets.